

Art prize finalists chosen

FINALISTS for the second biennial Guirguis New Art Prize have been selected.

The \$20,000 art prize, supported by Ballarat surgeon Mark Guirguis and administered by Federation University Australia, is a national acquisitive art prize supporting artists working across existing and new and emerging art forms and technologies.

Melbourne artist Chris Bond was invited to take part in the prize, creating an installation telling the fictional story of five artists who disappeared from Dean in the 1960s.

His practice involves the invention and embodiment of fictional artists, writers, organisations and scenarios that assist with the creative act.

"It's an installation with a fictional museum style," Mr Bond said.

The Devil's Spit involves 20 pieces of sculpture and items which are the remnants of what remained after the disappearance.

He is joined by Victorians Chris Barry, Louise Hubbard, Susan Jacobs, Jess Johnson, Dylan Martorell, Dominic Redfern, West Australians Teelah George and Pilar Mata-Dupont, Tasmanian Julie Gough, Queenslander Ross Manning, Kate Mitchell and Mark Shorter from NSW and Conrad Tipungwuti from the Northern Territory.

The winner will be announced the gala opening at the Art Gallery of Ballarat, with the work to be acquired for Federation University Australia's Permanent Collection.



AT A GLANCE

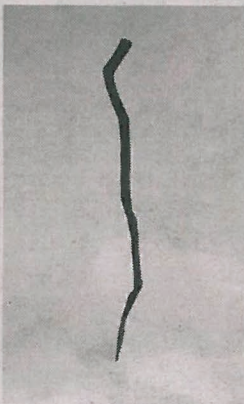
WHAT: Guirguis New Art Prize

WHERE: FedUni's Post Office Gallery and the Art Gallery of Ballarat

WHEN: April 11 to May 31, 10am to 5pm

ENTRY: Free

AT WORK: Artist Chris Bond was invited to enter in the new art prize. **PICTURE:** JOANNE MOLONEY



INNOVATION: Part of Chris Bond's installation.



SUCCESS: A still from *West Park Proposition*, 2012 – a three-channel and screen video installation by Ash Keating. It won last year's Guirguis New Art Prize.